

19. The palm pad system of claim 18, wherein the means for receiving and processing the electronic file comprises:

means for displaying the electronic file;

means for storing the electronic file;

means for retrieving the electronic file; and

means for controlling the displaying, storing and retrieving of the electronic file.

20. A palm pad system for enabling a user to electronically display, store, and retrieve hand written data, the palm pad system comprising:

a laptop computer;

an electronic notepad integrated with the laptop computer;

a source for generating a signal, the source being positioned in close proximity to the notepad,

wherein the notepad is constructed and arranged to sense the signal generated by the source, the signal corresponding to a relative position of the source with respect to the notepad;
and

wherein the notepad is constructed and arranged to communicate the relative position of the source to the laptop computer, the laptop computer being constructed and arranged to generate an electronic file representing the relative position of the source, the electronic file being displayed on a screen associated with the laptop computer

ABSTRACT

A palm pad system including an electronic notepad coupled to a conventional personal digital device (“PDD”) via a data bus is set forth that enables a user to transpose handwritten data into electronic files or pages. The notepad and PDD are mounted onto a common base. The base includes a retaining structure for retaining the notepad on the base and another retaining structure

for retaining the PDD on the base. The base further includes a flexible portion that permits the base to be folded into a compact form for protecting the notepad and PDD during transport. A pen containing a transmitter is employed by the palm pad system to transmit a signal to receptive electronics while a user writes data on the notepad with a writing tip contained in the pen. The signal received by the electronics is processed to generate an electronic file representative of the user's handwritten data. The electronic file can be electronically stored and retrieved. The electronic file can also be displayed on a touch sensitive display, which is associated with the PDD, immediately after composition by the user.

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